allocated to States under Swajaldhara in accordance with the ARWSP inter State allocation formula.

(c) and (d) As per Swajaldhara Guidelines, the community contribution towards capital cost of Swajaldhara schemes could be in the form of cash/ kind/labour/land or combination of these, with at least 50% of the community contribution being in cash. In the case of Scheduled Tribes areas, the proportion of cash contribution has now been reduced to 25% of the stipulated community contribution.

Role of handicrafts in rural development

†1672. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have carried out any study on the role of handicrafts in rural development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the State-wise details of efforts being made by Government for balanced development of handicrafts etc. in rural areas;

(d) whether any proposal sent by the Government of Madhya Pradesh regarding the same is lying pending with the Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) No such study on the role of handicrafts in rural development has been conducted by the Ministry.

(c) Besides participation in IITF SARAS fair, regional SARAS fairs are being organized by the Ministry from the year 2003-04 on wards in different States of the country to give a platform to market the products made by the rural artisans of all States.

(d) and (e) No such proposal is pending with the Ministry.

Food for work scheme

†1673. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts in which 'Food for Work' scheme is in force and the number of persons who get employment under this scheme;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.